



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718 · (608) 224-4848
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 14, No.22
Issued September 2, 2014

For the week ending August 31, 2014
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Heavy Rains Slow Fieldwork

Frequent rains kept many farmers out of fields this week, slowing hay, potato, and small grains harvests. Reporters noted heavy downpours, with weekly precipitation totals as high as 5.0 inches reported in some northeastern locations. Topsoil moistures rose statewide, with 89 percent adequate to surplus compared to 82 percent adequate to surplus last week. Some reporters noted crops yellowing in low lying areas and difficulty accessing fields due to muddy conditions. Temperatures were above normal across the south and central portions of the state. The heat and moisture boosted corn development but late plantings still had a long way to go before maturity. Reporters statewide commented that farmers are hoping for a warm fall with a late frost.

There were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 2 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 77 to 82 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 59 to 67 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.85 inches in Milwaukee to 2.07 inches in La Crosse. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

As of August 31, seventy percent of **corn** was in or past the dough stage, up 17 percentage points over the previous week. Twenty-three percent of corn was in or beyond the dent stage, up 13 percentage points from the previous week. Corn condition improved slightly with 71 percent rated good to excellent.

Ninety-three percent of **soybeans** were setting pods and 9 percent had leaves turning color. Soybeans condition was rated 72 percent good to excellent

Seventy-three percent of **oats** for grain has been harvested.

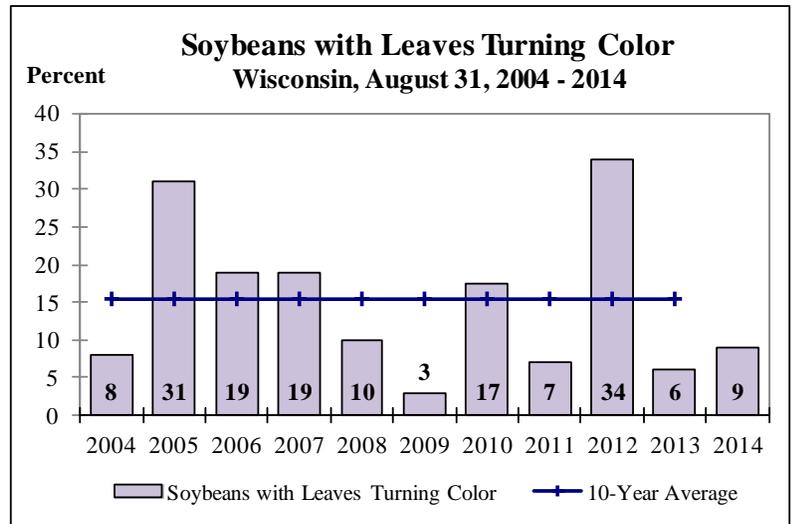
Ninety-five percent of **winter wheat** for grain has been harvested.

Potatoes were 12 percent harvested with 73 percent rated in good to excellent condition.

The **third cutting of alfalfa** was 78 percent complete and the **fourth cutting** was 15 percent complete.

All hay condition was rated 83 percent good to excellent.

Pasture condition was rated 61 percent good to excellent, up 7 percentage points from the previous week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 31, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	4	6	29	50	11
Hay, All	0	3	14	59	24
Corn	2	7	20	48	23
Soybeans	1	4	23	50	22
Potatoes	0	3	24	63	10

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of August 31, 2014

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent									Percent			
Corn in or past dough stage	57	56	29	74	52	61	89	88	64	70	53	58	75
Corn in or past dent stage	14	5	3	17	16	13	42	34	33	23	10	18	36
Soybeans setting pods	92	82	96	99	96	84	93	99	97	93	88	85	94
Soybeans turning color	7	3	4	10	9	6	15	14	6	9	3	6	13
Oats harvested for grain	67	30	42	98	89	61	98	99	95	73	64	87	95
Winter wheat harv. for grain	74	78	94	95	99	92	99	100	100	95	93	n.a.	n.a.
Potatoes harvested	11	2	2	5	15	n.a.	40	20	n.a.	12	6	n.a.	n.a.
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	71	59	81	74	73	82	87	86	82	78	68	76	85
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting	7	5	20	15	16	10	19	32	10	15	9	9	24

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of August 31, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	3.6	3.5	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	4.5	3.7	3.5	3.8	6.2
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	1	0	5	0	0	0	4	2	0	1	1	33
Short	17	11	15	6	2	3	20	14	5	10	17	39
Adequate	56	87	70	82	72	81	71	81	90	78	77	27
Surplus	26	2	10	12	26	16	5	3	5	11	5	1
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	3	1	2	1	2	0	5	2	0	1	3	26
Short	15	8	31	16	8	2	22	21	24	15	24	43
Adequate	69	89	59	78	77	82	71	74	72	78	69	31
Surplus	13	2	8	5	13	16	2	3	4	6	4	0

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BAYFIELD-C.B.: Continuing heavy rains throughout the area have slowed fieldwork considerably. Some corn and soybean fields are yellowing in the low areas.

CHIPPEWA-R.M.: Heavy rain last week - had 5.5 inches all week. Corn was late planted. Couldn't get in to fertilize or spray. Need about 4 or 5 days of good weather.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Received 1.75 inches of rainfall this past week. Had one night where we had to run the sprinkler irrigation to protect the vines from frost (34 degrees). Average high and low temps closer to normal but still slightly below.

MARINETTE-N.S.: Good soaking rains have benefited hay, corn, and soybean fields throughout most of the area.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Well another year is in the books for the Shawano County Fair. Once again it was a great success with exhibitors showing great vegetables crops and livestock. On the farm, rain showers and local heavy rain have slowed field work with oats fields still waiting to be combined. Other crops are likely running 2-3 weeks behind normal. The hope is for a warm fall and a late frost date.

BUFFALO-S.M.: Over last week, had spotty rain but at least 2.0-5.0 inches of rain. Some pretty big storms. One person saw some cattle out in the field, so some lightning issues. Some hard, fast rain.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Some corn is being chopped, but only for emergency feed. It is not ready yet.

PORTAGE-J.B.: Couldn't get any rain from July through the middle of August and now it won't go away! Another 4.0+ inches fell last weekend in our area. Things went from brown to green in a hurry but we need a very late frost for corn and soybeans to reach maturity in the earlier drought stressed areas. The rains have stopped potato harvesting and were very hard on the sweet corn and green bean harvesters which can't stop or the crops will get over mature. They said no rain today, Tuesday, but it's pouring out my window right now!

WOOD-M.L.: Fields are saturated. Intended hay cuttings this week won't be made.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: This week saw the departure of the barn swallows and arrival of the Canadian geese. Was a quiet week in the fields as things are caught up. 0.70 inches rain fell for the period.

GRANT-E.B.: Crops looking good due to getting moisture.

VERNON-K.L.: Rain showers continue but very spotty. Some locations received 2.0-3.0 inches in the past week and some just a trace. Corn starting to dry down and soybeans maturing.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Corn crop is coming along nicely. Soybeans look good, but not expected to be record high yielding. Hay crop looks good going into September. August was a challenge getting hay dry enough to bale. Chopped and ensiled hay was excellent.

DANE-F.P.: 1.25 inches rain on Monday, 1.5 inches of rain on Saturday helped corn, beans, hay, and winter wheat dramatically.

KENOSHA-R.R.: All the crops look very good including fruit, pears, apples. White mold is forming on the melons, cumpers, and pumpkins leaves.

OZAUKEE-K.A.: Some weeds appearing in soybean fields. Third crop hay is growing fast. Could use some heat to get corn and beans to mature on time.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 31, 2014

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug. 30	Mar. 1 to Aug. 30 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	79	59	87	52	69	+2	2189	2094	1.89	18.05	+5.43	32.14	+9.19
Green Bay	78	61	84	55	70	+4	1981	1956	1.27	10.06	-0.41	20.72	+0.61
La Crosse	82	65	90	59	74	+4	2523	2345	2.07	16.16	+3.83	29.33	+6.06
Madison	80	64	87	56	72	+5	2352	2282	1.52	16.06	+3.99	27.81	+4.25
Milwaukee	77	67	82	60	72	+3	2014	n.a.	0.85	14.33	+3.40	25.28	+1.44

1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. n.a.=not available. T=trace. Source: USDA, NASS.

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.